

# LeadingAge Kansas COVID-19 Weekly Update October 2, 2020

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# KDADS Testing Update and Q&A

Scott Brunner, Deputy Secretary

Poll

# State Update

- County positivity rate data: ANOTHER update
  - CMS announced new formula for determining positivity rate in rural and low testing counties that will eliminate unfair treatment
  - KDHE plans to make a special dashboard for nursing homes that will use the new CMS formula – no date given yet
  - In the meantime, keep using KDHE gatekeeping numbers as instructed by [KDADS memo](#)
- Fire Marshal Letters
  - CMS waiver for corrugated medical tubing (CMT) Important: must present waiver at beginning of inspection or cannot use it and will require a very expensive fix.
  - Not citing COVID barriers
- KDADS considering 2020 Medicaid NF cost reporting, advisory group will meet Oct. 14
- Do you know anyone who would make a good long term care ombudsman?

# Federal Update

New NHSN pathway for point of care testing reporting will go live on October 15th – this will satisfy the CLIA reporting requirement for antigen testing in nursing homes.

- What does this mean for the KDHE portal? We don't know yet
- In order to use the new NHSN reporting pathway you must upgrade SAMS clearance from level 1 to level 3

Nursing homes and other long-term care facilities can email [nhsn@cdc.gov](mailto:nhsn@cdc.gov) with the subject line “Enhancing Data Security” to begin upgrading their SAMS access to use this Pathway

- New CMS updates on Emergency Preparedness testing exercises

[QSO-20-41-ALL](#)



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